



1906.

THE
ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND OF THE
Sanitary Inspector
FOR THE
PAIGNTON URBAN DISTRICT.

PAIGNTON :

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THE ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the year 1906.

*To the Chairman and Councillors of the Paignton
Urban District.*

GENTLEMEN,

Again it is my duty to present my Annual Report and is the sixteenth one. The public health during the past year has been good, as evidenced by the following statistics. The death rate is low and satisfactory, but the birth rate is low and not so satisfactory. Referring to my last year's report, I then advised an amendment of your bye-laws as to the width of streets, making them 40ft. in width, and as if to emphasise the fact that you disregarded my advice, you have proposed to expend public money on the making of a road 600ft. in length only 24ft. wide. This is of course in direct conflict with your existing bye-laws which say that a road over 100ft. in length must be 36ft. wide. I feel obliged to remind you as the Sanitary Authority it is incumbent upon you to see your bye-laws are adhered to, but more especially should you on any work done by the Council set a good example and carry out the bye-laws yourselves.

The work of your officials is difficult enough without its being possible for the public to turn upon us and say your Council itself does not carry out the bye-laws. If Paignton is to retain its good name as a first-class town, this course of procedure must be stopped, or it will truly bring local self-government into disrepute and ridicule.

The following statistics are estimated upon a population to the middle of the year of 9,150.

Births.

There were 176 births registered, 95 boys and 81 girls, giving a birth rate of 19·2 per 1,000 per annum, and is less than last year and lower than the average of the last ten years. The natural increase, excess of births over deaths was 56.

Deaths.

The deaths registered during the year were 120 and very little over the average of ten years, shewing with the increase of population that the death rate is certainly smaller. The death rate on the average of the last ten years would be 14·6 per 1,000 per annum, whereas the rate for 1906 was only 13·1 and is very satisfactory. Of the 120 deaths registered 55 were males and 65 females.

The following table shews the number of deaths at the various ages :

Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	22
1 year and under 5 years	...	...	...	5
5 years and under 15 years	...	...	...	2
15 years and under 25 years	...	...	...	5
25 years and under 65 years	...	...	...	40
65 years and over	...	...	...	46
				<hr/>
				120

It will thus be seen that 37 per cent. of the deaths were of persons over 65 years of age.

The following is a summary of the causes of death registered during the year :—

TABLE IV.

PAIGNTON DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1906.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	All Ages	Und'r 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
Small-pox							
Measles							
Scarlet fever							
Whooping-cough	3	1	2				
Diphtheria and membranous croup							
Croup							
Fever } Typhus	1					1	
} Enteric							
} Other continued							
Epidemic influenza							
Cholera							
Plague							
Diarrhœa	2	1				1	
Enteritis	5	4	1				
Puerperal fever							
Erysipelas							
Other septic diseases							
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	11			1	5	5	
Other tubercular diseases	3	2	1				
Cancer, malignant disease	12					7	5
Bronchitis	7	1				2	4
Pneumonia	9					4	5
Pleurisy							
Other diseases of respiratory organs							
Alcoholism	2					1	1
Cirrhosis of liver }							
Venereal diseases	1					1	
Premature birth	2	2					
Diseases and accidents of parturition							
Heart diseases	12					4	8
Accidents	6	3	1			1	1
Suicides	1					1	
All other causes	43	8		1		12	22
All causes	120	22	5	2	5	40	46

TABLE I.

**VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1906
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.
PAIGNTON DISTRICT.**

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of Non- residents registered in the Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	DEATHS AT ALL AGES NETT.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1896	7420	166	22·2	11	66·4	106	14·2					
1897	7500	180	24·2	10	55·5	89	11·8					
1898	7700	161	20·9	19	118·0	95	12·3					
1899	7900	145	18·3	13	89·6	98	12·4					
1900	8150	166	20·3	21	126·0	114	17·1					
1901	8400	178	21·2	11	61·8	119	14·1					
1902	8500	169	19·8	14	82·8	122	14·3					
1903	8650	156	18·0	18	115·0	97	11·2					
1904	8800	176	20·0	21	119·0	140	15·9	No General Hospital or Work- house in the District so that the previous figures may be taken as nett.				
1905	9000	189	21·0	10	53·0	134	14·8					
Aver- ages for years 1896- 1905.	8197	168·6	20·6	14·8	88·7	111·4	13·8					
1906	9150	176	19·2	22	125	120	13·1					

*Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE. — The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term “Non-residents” is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term “Residents” is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)	...	5,177.5
Total population at all ages	...	8,385
Number of inhabited houses	...	1,785
Average number of persons per house	...	4.7

At Census of 1901.

Isolation Hospital is in the District.

TABLE V.

PAIGNTON URBAN DISTRICT.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1906.

Death from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.				Under 1 Wk.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total deaths under 1 year	
ALL CAUSES	Certified	...	...															
	Uncertified	...	...															
Common Infectious Diseases	Small-pox	...																		
	Chicken-pox	...																		
	Measles	...																		
	Scarlet fever	...																		
Diarrhœal Diseases	Diphtheria : Croup																			
	Whooping Cough														1				1	
	Diarrhœa, all forms																	1	1	
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis									1	1	1		1					4	
Wasting Diseases	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh							1											1	
	Premature Birth		2																2	
	Congenital Defects		1	1				1							1				4	
	Injury at Birth																			
Tuberculous Diseases	Want of Br'st-milk							1											1	
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus																			
	Tuberculous Meningitis									1									1	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica											1							1	
Other Causes	Other Tuberculous Diseases						1												1	
	Erysipelas	...																		
	Syphilis	...																		
	Rickets	...																		
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																			
	Convulsions	...																		
	Bronchitis	...																1	1	
	Laryngitis	...																		
	Pneumonia	...																		
	Suffocation, overlying		2							1										3
	Other Causes	...								1										1
					6	1		1	3		4	2	1		2	1			2	22
	District (or sub-division) of Paignton.										Population estimated to middle of 1906, 9,150									
	Births in the year { legitimate 167 illegitimate 9																			
Deaths in the year of legitimate infants 20 ; illegitimate infants 2.																				
Deaths from ALL CAUSES AT ALL AGES 120.																				

Infant
Mortality.

The infant mortality was 22, and measured by the proportion of deaths under one year of age to the number of births registered is 125 per 1,000, and is a great disappointment to me, for it is 45 over the average of the last 10 years. There were 9 illegitimate births registered, 2 of which died, giving 222 per 1,000, and almost one out of every four born, whilst the rate for legitimate children born is only 120 per 1,000. Possibly the very hot dry weather may have been one cause, but there were three cases of over-laying, shewing a want of care of infant life for which there is no excuse in a community such as the Paignton one. The average rate of deaths for the last ten years was 14·8 and 88·7 per 1,000 per annum respectively, full particulars of which are given in table 5.

The following table will no doubt be of interest to you as shewing the local statistics together with those of all England

VITAL STATISTICS OF ENGLAND AND WALES,
FOR THE YEAR 1906.

	Annual Rate per 1000 living.			
	Births.	Deaths from all causes.	Deaths from 7 chief Epidemic Diseases.	Infant Mortality. Annual death rate of Infants under 1 year of age to 1000 births.
England and Wales ...	27·0	15·4	1·75	133
76 Great Towns ...	27·9	16·0	2·24	146
142 Smaller Towns ..	26·5	14·4	1·70	138
England and Wales less the 218 Towns ...	26·3	15·0	1·18	115
Paignton	19·2	13·1	0·4	125

From this table it will be seen that the birth rate of Paignton is considerably below the average of England and Wales, the death rate is also below as is also the death rate from zymotic disease, but the infant mortality is very unsatisfactory, and much higher than it should be, considering that Paignton is not a manufacturing town.

Notifications

There were 21 notifications received during the year, viz. :—

Diphtheria	...	...	0
Erysipelas	...	...	3
Scarlet Fever	...	...	14
Enteric Fever	...	...	4
			—
			21

TABLE III.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING
YEAR 1906.
PAIGNTON URBAN DISTRICT.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.							No. of Cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years.						
		Und'r 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and up-wards	
Small-pox								
Cholera								
Diphtheria								
Membranous croup								
Erysipelas	3					3		
Scarlet Fever	14			11	1	2		
Typhus Fever								
Enteric Fever	4				2	2		
Relapsing Fever								
Continued Fever								
Puerperal Fever								
Plague								
Totals... ..	21			11	3	7		

The number of deaths due to zymotic disease were 11, viz., Enteritis or Diarrhœa 7, Whooping Cough 3, and Enteric Fever 1, giving a zymotic death rate of 1·2 per 1,000 per annum, and due chiefly to an outbreak of Whooping Cough and to Diarrhœa. One death only occurred as due to notifiable disease, viz., Enteric Fever, giving the very low rate of 0·4 per 1,000 per annum.

There were only 11 deaths registered as due to Phthisis, giving a rate of 1·2 per 1,000 per annum, and below that of last year, and also below the average of all England and Wales. Of these deaths only one was a visitor, but this reduces the rate to 1·09 per 1,000 per annum. Disinfection of premises is being more easily carried out, and the public are asking my advice as to disinfection of rooms after the death of persons from other diseases.

There were only a few notifications of Scarlet Fever received, viz., 14, of these 11 were removed to the Isolation Hospital. Two of the cases were of visitors' children from London, where they had a case and came away from home hoping to escape infection. All the cases made a good recovery, and the Isolation Hospital certainly has been most useful.

Enteric
Fever.

Four cases of this disease were notified and all were treated at home with one death. Careful enquiry was made but the cause of the disease could not be located in any of the cases.

Drainage.

Great damage was done by the sea to the sewer outfall, necessitating practically its renewal, which has caused great expense to the town.

Scavenge
Disposal.

In my last report the provision of a destructor was recommended, but another year has gone by and we are still without one. Negotiations have been entered into with an Electric Lighting Company to erect one in connexion with the electric lighting station, but I consider this an example of "how not to do it," and simply a putting off of doing something that is urgently needed. A destructor I certainly consider should be provided by the Sanitary Authority.

Water.

With regard to the water distribution scheme a most unbusinesslike course has been taken. After a scheme had been prepared by the Town Surveyor and Water Superintendent and accepted by the Council, and all plans and specifications made ready for a Local Government Board enquiry by their Inspector, suddenly the whole scheme was dropped and advertisement made for schemes to be submitted to the Council, with the result that another year will be lost, and with reason the public are asking "when are we to have the moorland water." The result of the advertisement was that two schemes besides that of the Surveyor were submitted, but the Council feeling themselves quite unable to decide, submitted all three to Mr. Baldwin Latham of Westminster, their consulting Water Engineer, asking him to report on them. Then a most curious course is adopted by the Council, Mr. Latham in his report most definitely says the scheme of the Surveyor is the best and may safely be adopted, and yet in face of this another scheme is adopted, the particulars of which are kept not only from the public but from all the Council officials. Why there is all this mystery is a puzzle to me, for surely your officials ought to know what is proposed to be done in the matter of water supply to the various parts of the town.

Slaughter
houses, Milk
shops,
Dairies, and
Bakehouses.

Many visits have been paid to these independently of the Sanitary Inspector, and altogether there is little to find fault about, all owners seeming wishful to meet the requirements of the Council.

The following is the report of Mr. Revell the Vaccination Officer :—

Successfully vaccinated...	...	...	...	124
Died unvaccinated	...	...	...	15
Conscientious objectors	...	...	...	4
Postponed on account of illness	...	...	...	4
Removed from the district	...	...	...	1
Not yet vaccinated and under 6 months old...				28
				<hr/> 176

Paignton is not a manufacturing town and there are only a few places where mechanical power is used, but there are 59 premises coming under the Act as workshops. One hundred and twenty-three inspections have been made, 5 to factories and 117 to workshops. In all there was only a necessity to serve four notices, and attention was at once paid to them and there has not been any necessity for prosecutions.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CHAS. W. VICKERS, D.P.H., London,

Medical Officer of Health.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF **THE SANITARY INSPECTOR,**

For the Year ending the 31st day of December, 1906.

*To the Chairman and Councillors of the Paignton Urban
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my 12th Annual Report upon the work done in my department during the year, and in doing so wish to express my thanks to the Council for the consideration they have given to any cases that it has been my duty to place before them for consideration. It is gratifying to be able to report the continual progress that is being carried out in the proper provisions of good sanitary arrangement and drainage in the older class of property in the Town.

Drains, &c.

The application for the testing of house drains are becoming more numerous, showing, in my opinion, that people are getting more enlightened as to the dangers that may arise from defective drains and sanitary arrangement. In carrying out this work and the general routine of inspection, it has been necessary in many cases to either take up and relay, or re-construct the drains altogether, and in connection with the same it has become necessary to condemn a large number of Mason's traps, D and Bell traps and unsanitary water closet pans, also when slight defects in the drains have been found, the same have been remedied. In nearly all cases of re-construction or relaying of house drains Inspection Chambers have been provided during the year. The sanitary arrangements at the Pavilion end of the Pier have been renovated and greatly improved.

Scavenging.

The removal of house refuse is carried on by the Council's staff. Some difficulty is found in depositing the refuse. Several complaints have been received as to the nuisance caused by the refuse being tipped too near public roads and not removed and buried so soon as it might be; the difficulty of finding tips increases yearly and it is advisable that the Council should make arrangement for the provision of a destructor as soon as possible. A large number of houses have been provided by the owners with galvanised iron ashbins.

**Infectious
Diseases.**

Upon receipt of notification of Infectious Diseases by the Medical Officer of Health, all cases have been visited, and where considered advisable by the Medical Officer of Health have been removed to the Isolation Hospital. Disinfectants

have been provided upon application ; the premises disinfected and where considered necessary, or any suspicion has arisen, the drains have been tested. Cleansing orders for the stripping and cleansing of rooms and houses have been served upon the owners in several cases, and the necessary work has been carried out. Disinfection has been carried out in a number of cases of Phthisis.

Several samples of water have been taken during the year from private wells, in one case the water was found to be contaminated by the drainage from the yard, the well was cleaned out and the yard concreted. The year has been one of the driest that has occurred for some years, but the consumers have had a constant supply during the whole of the year. Complaints have been received from some of the consumers on the higher levels, but on account of the large increase of new houses it is becoming a difficult matter to keep the high level properties supplied. A supply of Town water has been laid on to 16 old houses and 117 new houses during the year.

The Dairies, Cowhouses and Milkshops have been periodically visited during the year. The Dairies and Milkshops are kept in clean condition. Great difficulty is found in prevailing upon the occupiers of cowhouses to keep them and the yards adjoining in clean condition. Cowhouses,
Dairies, &c.

Six samples of milk were taken during the year, five of the same were genuine and one sample was found deficient in milk fats.

Frequent visits have been made to the slaughter houses, several have been asked to whitewash same, but generally they have been found in a fairly satisfactory condition as regards cleanliness. Slaughter
houses.

Periodical visits have been made to the Workshops, Bakehouses and Laundries during the year. Several notices have been served to limewash the workshops and the necessary work was carried out. One factory was provided with additional sanitary accommodation for the workpeople, one room in a workshop not being properly ventilated, the owner agreed to close the same. Workshops.

No list of outworkers have been sent in to the Council during the year. During the year a circular has been received from the Home Office, complaining of the default in carrying out the part of the Act and urging upon Local Authorities that the lists of outworkers should be duly received from employers, and the necessary steps taken to enforce them in case of default.

New Houses.

Upon their completion the drains and sanitary arrangements of all new houses have been examined and thoroughly tested, Inspection Chambers being provided in all cases. The building of new houses has been carried on during the year rapidly for us, and I have to report that a considerably larger number have been built than in any previous year since my reports to you, and I am pleased to say that they are being occupied as fast as they are built; considerably the largest number are workmen's cottages.

Notices.

Notices have been served when found necessary, or when instructed by the Council to do so for the abatement of nuisances, removal of animals or offensive accumulations, sanitary defects, the cleansing of houses, &c., and in all cases the necessary work has been carried out satisfactorily. As you will see by the tabulated list appended to the report, the large majority were preliminary notices, and the work was carried out without troubling the Committee or Council.

I herewith append a list of some of the Sanitary work carried out during the year :—

Complaints received and attended to...	...	7
Houses inspected	... ..	350
Preliminary notices	... ..	65
Legal notices	... ..	6
Drains found choked	... ..	15
Drains tested (old)	... ..	68
Drains tested (new)	... ..	117
Drains found defective	... ..	51
Drains taken up and relaid	... ..	7
Drains, new system	... ..	21
Inspection chambers to old properties	...	26
Interceptors in place of Mason's traps	...	22
Gullies in place of defective D and Bell traps		41
Washdown W.C.'s in place of pan containers and long hoppers	... ..	37
Water waste preventers fitted...	... ..	30
Water waste preventers repaired	... ..	24
Soil pipes in wall destroyed and new carried outside	... ..	22
Soiled pipes repaired	... ..	18
Rain and waste pipes dis-connected from drains		4
Ashpits repaired...	... ..	18
Ashbins provided	... ..	73
Offensive accumulations removed	... ..	4
Animals removed	... ..	5
New W.C.'s built	... ..	5
Town water laid on to old premises	... ..	16
Infectious cases visited, including Phthisis	...	24

Infectious cases removed to Hospital...	...	12
Houses disinfected	... ..	25
Houses cleansed...	... ..	6
Cesspools closed ..	... ..	1
Samples of well water taken	... ..	2
Cowhouses cleansed	... ..	4
New houses tested	... ..	117
Visit to workshops	... ..	117
Notices to cleanse workshops ...	.. ...	4

Before closing my report I would like again to draw your attention to the great need of sanitary conveniences in several parts of the town, and also of the unsanitary condition of some of the existing ones. These matters I know have been under consideration, but I would respectfully ask that the Council will take definite action at once in this matter. Thanking the Council and my fellow officers for the assistance they have given me in the discharge of our duties.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

J. CRATHORN, A.R.S.I.,

Certificated Sanitary Inspector.

